KRISHNAMURTI FOUNDATION TRUST

2021-22 Annual Report

Education is to bring about the extraordinary beauty of order through learning about the dangers of disorder. Then the mind will lose all its aggressive, competitive, ruthless activity. The core of disorder is the self-centred activity which all societies and communities encourage in different forms. Having encouraged that, it ends up in violence and then society resorts to repression.

> From CAN THE MIND BE QUIET? KRISHNAMURTI



Message from the Board of Trustees

Our world is beset with problems and increasing disorder. To cast about for individuals or groups to blame is the norm; to recognise self-centred activity as the root of the dilemma requires a deeper insight. Observation of life and of oneself leads to a different kind of learning, but the education Krishnamurti speaks of is sorely lacking in our schools, homes, media, places of work and worship. It is not talked about because our societies are built upon and encourage self-centred activity and then lament when they are unable to resolve the problems arising from it: how do you end war, tackle pandemics and solve climate change without an understanding of this?

As Trustees of the Krishnamurti Foundation Trust, we are concerned with education of the kind described by Krishnamurti in the preceding extract, not simply within Brockwood Park School and Inwoods Small School, but within the entire organisation and beyond. More than ever, learning needs to move us away from the 'dangers of disorder' and towards the 'extraordinary beauty of order'. How can we ensure that the organisation for which we are responsible supports such learning, not just in the classrooms, but in the corridors of the

Krishnamurti Centre and the offices of the Foundation?

The manner in which we organise ourselves is intended to assist with this: staff roles and functions do not infer status, and in the classrooms there are no grades or prizes, and there is an atmosphere of friendly equality. An environment may not ensure a fundamental change, but it can provide fertile soil and support for a radically different learning and education.

These benefits are not confined to those living at Brockwood. As a recent guest of the Centre remarked: 'My stay was such a restful and reflective time – a time of learning, listening, admiring, connecting and enjoying the beauty around the building, surroundings, people... The opportunity to read, understand and reflect on Krishnamurti's vision, wisdom was very nourishing.' And for those who might never visit Brockwood, the dissemination of the teachings via the extensive work of the Foundation aids learning and results in spontaneous notes of appreciation: 'Hello Krishnamurti Foundation Trust. You guys are amazing and doing the most wonderful thing by uploading these videos. There has been a new kind of learning ever



vulnerable to the vagaries of a tough world and the increasing financial and regulatory pressures felt by charities and schools. Given this, we are pleased that in the last financial year, we were able to put in place all of the necessary elements for the creation of a permanent endowment fund. Known as The Brockwood Fund, this will allow for long-term financial planning and security for Krishnamurti Foundation Trust and the vital work occurring across the whole of Brockwood. A donor has kindly offered to assist in the launch of the Fund by offering to match donations made to it for a limited time. Further details about this will follow shortly.

Finally, our thanks to all of you who are providing this important work with your generous support and assistance. We are most grateful.



ALASTAIR HERRON, DEREK HOOK, MARINA KUYPER GARY PRIMROSE, WENDY SMITH

Overview

We offer here a brief financial and functional overview of Brockwood for the last financial year. During the financial year 2022, the schools awarded approximately 5.45% of total fee income in bursaries, which amounted to £91,336, providing support to 13 students at Brockwood and three at Inwoods.

Total income of the charity slightly decreased from £2,731,645 to £2,705,601. Donations received totalled £403,503 (compared to £508,932 in 2021); legacies amounted to £209,781 (2021: £567,025). After deducting total expenses of £2,312,110 (2021: £1,985,124), the Net Incoming Resources for the charity totalled £393,491 (2021: £746,521).

Actual Financials for the Financial Year 2021-22

KRISHNAMURTI FOUNDATION TRUST • INCLUDING ALL DEPARTMENTS AT BROCKWOOD

Incoming Resources £2.71m



Voluntary income includes income given to the charity on a voluntary basis such as gifts, donations and legacies. Incoming resources from charitable activities include any resources arising from activities promoting the charity's objectives.

Voluntary Income £0.61m



Income from Charitable Activities £2.09m



Resources Expended £2.31m



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Krishnamurti Foundation

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'How did you come across Krishnamurti?'

'A YouTube video.'

'On Instagram.'

Only ten years ago, these answers would have been outliers when a response was more likely to be, 'I read one of his books.' Today, social media and digital platforms are where most people encounter for the first time Krishnamurti's timeless, transformational message.

Faced with the task of dealing with such platforms' salient dangers and paradoxes, the Foundation's original remit of making sure 'these teachings are kept whole, are not distorted and not made corrupt' requires unprecedented inventiveness and impersonal sensitivity.

To maintain the integrity and spirit of the teachings while embracing the all-encompassing reach of digital culture, in 2022 the Foundation launched kfoundation.org, an extensive curated repository for Krishnamurti's work. The culmination of many years' careful experimentation, this new website allows users to go as deep as they wish, from the inviting quotes and introductory sections to over 600 easy-to-navigate web pages that include podcast episodes, transcripts, curated articles, and information on Brockwood Park. The site is currently available in eight languages.

2022 saw more than 300,000 new subscribers to our Instagram, Tik-Tok, YouTube and Facebook accounts. In the same year, the Foun-

dation was responsible for 2,500 content releases across our social media. YouTube now features 1,300 full-length audio and video recordings available advert-free, and 1,500 short extracts, generating 23 million views. Our YouTube channel also has over 3,300 subtitled recordings of Krishnamurti in more than 40 languages. *Urgency of Change – The Krishnamurti Podcast* has surpassed 1.5 million downloads.

The areas of publications and archives are slower-paced yet also affected by technological changes, shifts with which the Foundation ably keeps pace; books are often released in eBook and audiobook formats, and for preservation we utilise archival cloud storage. Recent book releases by major publishers include *What Is Meditation?*, *The Beauty of Life* (an expanded version of *Krishnamurti's Journal*), and the timely *Can Conflict End?*

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Figures alone don't tell us the degree to which individuals have been impacted in their lives. More and more, outcomes of our online media are people attending The Krishnamurti Centre, donating to our charitable causes, or students enrolling at Brockwood Park School. The increasing number of testimonials online, and by those visiting Brockwood Park, leaves little doubt as to whether the work of the Foundation effectively ensures Krishnamurti's legacy is communicated to a world that more than ever needs fundamental change.



The Krishnamurti Centre

Last year we looked carefully at different ways to increase the number of people coming to the Centre. The popularity of our events indicated a growing demand for occasions that allow for a shared exploration of the teachings, in the beautiful surroundings of the Centre and Brockwood Park. As a result, we have increased the number of events in our programme for the current year and included some for larger groups, such as the Young Adults Retreat and a completely new Summer Gathering. The former will have 40 participants and the latter up to 120. The Gathering, though hosted at the school, will also use Centre accommodation and will

have a programme of dialogues and video screenings of the teachings, while allowing time for sports activities and classical music recitals.

The demographics on our social media platforms show that there are a large number of young people interested in the teachings, however, generally the guests at the Centre are not young. One reason for this is that young people are often unable to afford to travel to the Centre, especially from abroad which can involve considerable expense in addition to the cost of their stay. In response, we have started a new volunteer programme, allowing participants between the ages of 18-35 to come to the Centre for a period of either two or four weeks. Volunteers are given free board and lodging in return for an agreed schedule of work, plus we offer organised group dialogues and video screenings. This provides the possibility to be at the Centre, be immersed in the teachings, and meet like-minded people both young and old.

This year we have used the success of our social media channels to boost the visibility of our volunteer programme and our programme of events. At the time of writing, despite there having been only three posts on social media about the two new events described above, we have received hundreds of emails with people expressing their interest and wishing to attend. The Summer Gathering is almost fully booked, and we are now planning to host another Young Adults Retreat in September 23, to ensure that those who are unable to attend in April are not disappointed.



Brockwood Park School

It was good to start the new academic year without Covid concerns, which had occupied so much of our time in the previous two years. In September 2021, we welcomed 70 students to the school from over 20 countries and it was wonderful to have such a diverse group. The school had received over 120 student applications, for just 30 available places; a significant increase on previous years. This meant that we had to become more selective and give careful consideration to the qualities we were looking for in a student applicant. Although our outreach efforts - particularly digital - are proving effective, we continue to see the majority of applicants come to us by word of mouth, which is a testament to the experience of the students and parents with regards to the school.

We feel Brockwood is a unique school, which is moving in a direction that is contrary to the general current of society, which is becoming more and more concerned with regulation, mechanical in its response to challenges, suspicious of creative learning environments, and fearful of the complexity of human relationship. We, however, are aiming to provide an open and caring atmosphere, where students live without judgement and undue pressure; a safe space where they can meet and explore the many challenges and questions that emerge at this stage of life.

The school underwent an inspection from the Independent School Inspectorate (ISI) in September 2021 and we found ourselves in the difficult, sometimes impossi-

ble, position of explaining all of the above to them. There is a trend towards over-regulation in society and schools, looking at anything different from conventional educational offerings with suspicious eves. We felt this strongly during the inspection we had last year. As always, we were grateful for the heartfelt support the students gave us throughout the process; their lively, light and youthful presence continues to encourage us during challenges such as this. We were also grateful for our parents and the sterling support they give us on such occasions. A special Parents Weekend at Brockwood in December this academic year, meant that they were able to join us for three fascinating and engaging days, during which we received their sincere appreciation first-hand.

In a society polarised and divided with considerable competitive, aggressive and violent behaviour, we see it as a sort of miracle that we are able to live together at Brockwood, with students, in an atmosphere of freedom and order. The innate intelligence in each of us responds to a different educational setting and awakens staff and students to the fact of Krishnamurti's succinct statement 'The whole movement of life is learning'. This fragile project cannot continue to flourish without the support of everyone: staff, students, parents and our kind donors and well-wishers. Thank you!



Inwoods Small School

Year by year, Inwoods Small School changes and continues to grow. For the year 2021-2022 learning was led by two trained teachers who taught mixed year groups that covered Reception-aged children to Year $3(4\frac{1}{2})$ to 8 year olds). Both teachers are UK trained, highly qualified and experienced while also adept at leading learning outdoors. The children were lucky to be in classes that were small and so real relationships were able to be built between the teachers and the children. Learning was inspired by the interests of the children and they helped co-create the curriculum. Both teachers were

able to interweave the skills they needed in their main subjects, such as English, maths and science into fascinating topics, including indepth studies of the nature that surrounds Inwoods. The Inwoods site continues to provide endless learning opportunities with the wild nature garden and the big back field being as much classroom spaces as The Oak House or Big Barn. The children were given space to develop a real love of learning.

The year ended well, with many new families looking to join for the next academic year. The end of year comments by parents were very supportive and encouraging. Many of the new parents that joined heard about the school through existing parents. All involved in the project, from parents to staff to the children, all value that Inwoods continues to be a unique educational project that puts relationships and a real interest in learning at the heart of everything it does.

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